

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service...  
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EDITORIALS

Union Label Goods and Services

The union label is organized labor's effective instrument for maintaining and improving wages, hours and working conditions.

Employers use the labor power of working men and women in the production of goods and services for sale. When an employer signs an agreement to employ union members at union wages and hours and under union rules, it is expected the agreement will be mutually advantageous to employer and workers.

The field of union-made articles and services is very large. It covers practically everything the workers and their families use, from bakery products to wall paper.

The American Federation of Labor label carries the inscription: "All goods bearing this label are guaranteed union made." It is used by the following crafts and callings: Coffee, Spice and Baking Powder Workers; Horse Nail Workers, Cane Cutters and Makers, Suspenders Makers, Rubber Workers, Sausage Seasoning and Spice Workers, Single Mill Employees, and Metal Stamping and Assemblers.

In addition to its own label the American Federation of Labor has endorsed all labels issued by the following organizations: Bakers and Confectioners, Bill Posters and Bids, Bookbinders, Blacksmiths, Boot and Shoe Workers, Brewery Workmen, Brick and Clay Workers, Broomeakers, Carpenters and Joiners, Cigar-makers, Coopers, Draftsmen, Electrical Workers, Farmers, Glass Bottle Blowers, Glass Workers, Hatters and Millinery Workers, Horseshoers, Iron, Steel Workers, Jewelry Workers, Ladies' Garment Workers, Lathers, Laundry Workers, Leather Workers, Lithographers, Machinists, Marble Workers, Metal Engravers, Metal Polishers, Millers, Painters, Painters and Sign-Engineers, Piano and Organ Workers, Powder Workers, Printing Pressmen, Sheet Metal Workers, Shovelers, Typewriters and Electric Typewriter Makers, Tailors, Textile Workers, Tobacco Workers, Typographical Workers, United Garment Workers, United Wall-Paperers, Wire Workers, Wood Carvers.

The union card, buttons and emblems of the following 10 organizations also carry the endorsement of the A. F. of L.: Actors, Barbers, Hotel and Restaurant Employees, Meat Outlets and Butcher Workmen, Musicians, Operating Engineers, Retail Clerks, Stationary Firemen, Teamsters, Theatrical Stage Employees.

There are over three million working men and women enrolled in the national and international unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

These trade unions with union cards in their pockets constitute a very large market for the products of the country. Every one of them should constantly systematize purchases so that the buying power which comes from union wages will be spent for products made and services rendered by union men and women. When this is done the trade union movement will have added a considerable pillar to its foundation structure.

Long live the Union Label!

Millions in Trade Union Benefits

Trade union benefits to help union men and women through the trying periods of unemployment, sickness and old age and provide their families with assistance when the breadwinner is disabled, are among the outstanding protective measures which organized labor gives to its members.

A national summary of these benefits, totaling millions of dollars, is included in the annual report which the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor makes to the hands of the A. F. of L. indicate that organized labor continues to regard these benefits as an integral part of its trade union structure.

The large extent of these benefit services was strikingly shown in the summary for 1933 which the Executive Council reported to the 1934 convention.

Out of 114 standard national and international unions 90 reported the payment of some of the regular forms of benefits. The total amount paid by all the unions reporting was \$46,622,112.72, classified as follows:

Death benefits, \$14,780,206.42; sick benefits, \$1,655,265.75; unemployment benefits, \$1,738,482.87; old-age benefits, \$4,676,636.41; disability benefits, \$4,837,720.47; miscellaneous benefits, \$1,666,820.71.

Nine unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor reported having paid benefits in excess of half a million dollars each. The names of the organizations and the amounts follow:

International Typographical Union, \$1,666,820.71; International Photo-Engravers' Union of North America, \$1,743,195.13; United Mine Workers of America, \$1,000,000; Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees of America, \$997,000; International Stereographers and Electrotypers' Union of North America, \$898,490.87; United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters of the United States and Canada, \$748,071; International Printing Pressmen's and Assistants' Union of North America, \$617,734.67; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers of America, \$529,852.54.

Although the total benefits paid by the smaller unions do not run into the hundreds of thousands of dollars which characterize the outlays of the larger unions, the individual benefits to relieve distress among their members are equally as important as the benefits granted by the big organizations.

The long record of benefits paid by American trade unions demonstrates that the program of the organized labor movement includes more than wages, hours and work conditions.

Kokomo Judge Imposes Jail Terms On 29 Union Pottery for Picketing

Kokomo, Ind.—Judge Grover Bishop in the Kokomo city court imposed fines of \$25 and 30 days' imprisonment on the State Farm on each of 29 members of Local No. 34, National Union of Pottery Workers, who were charged with picketing the Kokomo Sanitary Pottery Corporation's plant in violation of a municipal ordinance which prohibited peaceful picketing.

The court ordered that a writ of habeas corpus be granted to the 29 men who were arrested on charges of picketing, but after the company had paid the fines and the men were released, the court ordered that the writ be set aside and the men be committed to jail for 30 days each.

In this connection it is well to note that the National Labor Relations Board in a decision rendered in 1934 held that when a case concerning the company's right to picket is brought before the board, the company is not to be heard by the board unless it is shown that the company's picketing is not in violation of the National Labor Relations Act.

Senate Votes Walsh Wage and Hour Bill

Requires NRA Code Labor Provisions in All Government Contracts—Also Applies to Federal Loans

The Senate passed a record 75-15 vote on the Walsh-Healey Act, which requires that all government contracts and subcontracts must contain provisions for the enforcement of the National Labor Relations Act.

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Social Security Bill Includes Labor's Demand That Employers Provide Job Insurance Fund

Payroll Tax Begins Next January With Government Paying \$4,000,000 Administration Expenses—Old-Age Pension Fund Provided Jointly by Employers and Employees—Annuity System Set Up—Aid for Dependent Children and Health Service For Mothers and Children Provided

The Social Security bill, which was passed by the House of Representatives last night, provides for a payroll tax to be levied on employers and employees.

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A. F. of L. Council Urges Prevailing Wage on All Government Work Relief Building and Construction Projects

Says This Can Be Done by Transferring the Projects from WPA to FWA, Which Operates Under Prevailing Wage Plan—Green Fears Nation-wide Strike of Building Workers Unless WPA Low Wages Are Increased

The American Federation of Labor Council has urged the Federal Government to transfer all building and construction projects from the Works Progress Administration (WPA) to the Federal Work Relief Administration (FWA).

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Roosevelt Signs Old-Age Pensions and Unemployment Insurance Bill

Says Measure Will Protect 30,000,000 Persons and 'Provide for the United States an Economic Structure of Vastly Greater Soundness'

Washington, D. C.—President Roosevelt signed the Social Security bill, which provides for old-age pensions and unemployment insurance.

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